Case 1:07-cv-06289-RJH Document 20 Files

DOCUMENT

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UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

BSLE MALTA LTD,

Plaintiff,

-against-

PUYVAST CHARTERING BV

Defendant.

BSLE MALTA LTDA. (f/k/a BSLE MALTA LTD),

Plaintiff,

-against-

PUYVAST CHARTERING BV

Defendant.

07 Civ. 6289 (RJH)

<u>ORDER</u>

09 Civ. 2031 (RJH)

After hearing oral argument and reviewing all the evidence in the record, the Court finds that there was no "want of equity" in plaintiff's ex parte motion for a maritime attachment dated March 6, 2009. The correspondence between the parties establishes that, following arbitration awards in the first of the above-captioned actions, plaintiff conducted good faith negotiations over the precise amount to be released from an earlier attachment dated July 9, 2007. When those negotiations reached an impasse in February 2009, defendant demanded that plaintiff release all funds in excess of the arbitration awards, and threatened to move this Court for an order directing such release. Defendant never so moved, however, and negotiations appeared to continue between the parties. Ultimately, plaintiff decided to move to attach the same funds held in the first attachment to secure claims made in the second above-captioned action. The application

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for this second attachment met all the requirements of Supplemental Rule B of the

Federal Rules of Civil Procedure. Because plaintiff was continuing to negotiate in good

faith the release of the funds initially attached, and because defendant had ample

opportunity to move this Court for release following the February impasse, the Court

concludes that plaintiffs did not act in bad faith or inequitably when it sought the second

attachment.

Accordingly, defendant's motion to vacate is DENIED. Plaintiff's unopposed

cross-motion to confirm the arbitration awards in the first action is GRANTED, and

defendant's unopposed request for countersecurity in its counterclaim is GRANTED.

The banks holding defendants' funds are directed to release \$62,197.18 to the plaintiff,

but the remaining amount attached should be held pending resolution of the second

action. Counsel for plaintiff are also directed to retain in escrow plaintiff's \$48,281.04

countersecurity until defendant's counterclaim is resolved. The first action, case number

07 Civ. 6289, is dismissed with prejudice, and the Clerk of the Court directed to close

that case.

SO ORDERED.

Dated: New York, New York

June 8, 2009

Richard J. Holwell

United States District Judge

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